



Wicomico County TNVR

Project #

22-7085b

County: New Castle County (project in Wicomico County)

Number of Cats Spayed: 493

Number of Dogs Spayed: 0

Number of Cats Neutered: 400

Number of Dogs Neutered: 0

Amount Received: \$38,250.00

Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$0.00

Project Synopsis:

This project provided TNVR services to free-roaming cats in Salisbury (zip codes 21801 and 21804), Willards, Fruitland, Pittsville, and Delmar. In total, 911 cats were trapped, sterilized, and vaccinated. ALL cats within each colony were TNVR'd in order to ensure zero percent colony growth.



Maryland Department of Agriculture
Spay and Neuter Grants Program



Project Description:

In an effort to reduce intake and euthanasia at the Humane Society of Wicomico County, we conducted targeted TNVR of colonies in Salisbury (21801 & 21804), Willards, Fruitland, Delmar, and Pittsville. The project was started on January 13, 2022 and completed on December 30, 2022. These zip codes were targeted because they were reported as areas of highest intake and euthanasia for the Humane Society of Wicomico County. Throughout the project, we used the only effective TNVR protocol which involves working closely with the colony caregiver in order to trap 100% of the cats residing in the colony so that there is zero percent colony growth. In addition to reducing intake and euthanasia, this project also aimed to reduce the free-roaming cat population, reduce the risk of rabies spread, and reduce complaint calls to animal control.

Summary of Approach:

This project was started immediately after the completion of our previous MDA grant which also funded TNVR in Wicomico County. Through our work in the area during that project, we began to receive regular requests for help and so we were able to TNVR colony after colony through a complaint-driven approach. After having an infrastructure in place with our resources, employees, and volunteers allowed us a quick and easy start. We created and distributed a flyer to promote our services. 1/13/22-12/30/22: Working closely with colony caregivers, our trapper aimed to TNVR at least one to two colonies every two weeks. In order to stabilize each colony, we continuously trapped until ALL cats were caught. All cats were transported to one of our facilities where they were sterilized, vaccinated (FVRCP & Rabies), received flea and parasite treatment, ear-tipped, and provided additional medical care if required. Feral cats were released and friendly cats were placed for adoption.

Accomplishments:

1.) Relief on shelter intake for the Humane Society of Wicomico County. 2.) TNVR'd 911 free-roaming cats in the above Wicomico County cities. 3.) We estimate that this project prevented the birth of roughly 2200 kittens that would have otherwise been born. 4.) Hundreds of cats were held and placed for adoption. Including cats that have feline leukemia and FIV. 5.) Many cats received life-saving and life-changing medical care. Some additional surgeries performed on cats brought in through this project included but were not limited to: entropion repair, enucleations, dentals, wound care, and polyp removal.



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Lessons Learned:

1.) Communication is key. There are many volunteers involved in order to pull off a project of this magnitude. It is very important everyone is on the same page and is aware of the grant guidelines. 2.) For reporting purposes, it's much easier to work on the reports on a bi-weekly basis rather than at the end of the quarter.

For More Information Contact:

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